Fake freedom fighters Pension cases

1075. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of fake freedom fighters are getting freedom fighters' pension in Orissa as per the news item entitled, "Fake Freedom Fighters get Pension", which appeared in the Times of India of the 8th October, 1992;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the total number of fake freedom fighters' cases detected during the last three years till date, yearwise and State/Union Territory-wise; and

(d) what remedial steps Government have taken/propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) and (b) The news item mainly refers to a racket in grant of State pension to ineligible persons, which came to light when Central Government asked for a report about a contradictory statement in respect of sufferings undergone by a person whose case had been recommended for grant of Central Freedom Fighters Pension. The Central Pension to the freedom fighters is sanctioned on fulfilment of certain eligibility criteria and on the recommendations of the State Governments. On the basis of a general statement it cannot be verified if any freedom fighter in the State of Orissa has been sanctioned the Central pension on the basis of false claims.

(c) and (d) Government do receive some complaints against the recipients of the freedom fighters' pension from the Central Revenues. Such compalints are immediately got investigated and in the event of the same being found correct, pension is suspended/cancelled. No separate record is being maintained in respect of such cases.

Solution of Bodo Problem

1076. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH :
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM RATTAN RAM :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present status of talks with the Bodo representatives; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Bodos have expressed dissatisfaction at the progress of the talks; if so, what action is being taken by Government for amicable solution of the Bodo problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) and (b) A Three-Member Expert Committee was constituted to determine the areas of Bodos and other plain tribes to the North of river Brahmaputra in Assam and made recommendations as to the autonomy—administrative, legislative and financial powers that could be given to them. This Committe submitted its report in March, 1992. The All Bodo Students' Union (ABSU) and the Bodo Peoples Action Committee (BPAC) have, however, rejected the report and recommendations of the Committee. Thereafter a series of discussions have been held between the Government of Assam and the ABSU/BPAC as also between the Central Government and Bodo leadership to find solutions to their problems. Efforts are continuing to find amicable and acceptable solutions through further negotiations with the concerned parties.

***Citizenship right to Jammu and Kashmir* Residents**

1077. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of persons were migrated from West Pakistan and settled in the State of Jammu and Kashmir in 1947-48;